



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COLUMBIA MAN SENTENCED FOR ILLEGALLY POSSESSING A FIREARM

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Columbia, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for illegally possessing a firearm.

John Robert Carroll, Jr., 44, of Columbia, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Scott O. Wright this morning to seven years and four months in federal prison without parole.

On July 8, 2005, **Carroll** pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm and to being an unlawful drug user or addict in possession of a firearm. **Carroll** admitted that he was an unlawful user or addicted to a controlled substance in possession of a Jennings by Bryco Arms .22-caliber pistol and ammunition on Nov. 24, 2004, in Boone County, Mo. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone convicted of felony and for anyone who is an unlawful user or addicted to a controlled substance to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Carroll** has two 1992 criminal felony convictions for stealing in Phelps County, Mo., a 1988 criminal felony conviction for burglary in Phelps County, a 1981 criminal felony conviction for stealing in Cole County, Mo., and a 1979 criminal felony conviction for burglary in Boone County.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Anthony P. Gonzalez. It was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Boone County, Mo., Sheriff's Department and the Union, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html